

ROMANCE™ Ranunculus

Growing Instructions:

1. **Arrival:** You will receive your Ranunculus bulbs packed in netted bags.
2. **Storage:**
When direct planting is not immediately possible, store the ranunculus roots in a cool dry location with plenty of air circulation until you are ready to plant.
4. **Pre-Sprouting:**
The reason for pre-sprouting these roots is to have a better and more even growing start for optimal rooting and flower development.
 - Soak ranunculus in the mesh bags for 12 hours in room temperature water.
 - Make sure the soaking water is running/moving at least a little to increase the water's oxygenation levels.
5. **Planting:**
 - Directly after soaking, plant ranunculus roots in a soil temperature below 54°F.
 - You may plant directly in the ground with covering or in a hoop-house or greenhouse. Keep the soil moist and free of weeds.
 - **Do not plant these roots in the ground without freeze protection!!**
 - Plant approximately **8 inches apart** with the same amount of space between rows.
 - Plant **approximately 20 ranunculus roots per 3.5 feet.**
 - Put 1 inch of soil on top of the roots.
 - Plant roots with the center of the root facing up and the end of the roots facing down.
 - Handle bulbs carefully when planting to avoid damage.
 - Water thoroughly after planting so the soil is moist and encloses around the roots.
 - **It is very important, especially in for beginning of the root growth, to keep the soil moist at all times!**
 - **Make sure the bulbs do not dry out after planting.** (When bulbs dry out you will have loss of germination of the bulbs).
 - In beginning, water the roots overhead and later water only by drip hoses.
 - Romance require 1 layer of netting to support their stems.
 - In the first 2-4 weeks you will see your Ranunculus sprouting in the ground, try to keep night temperatures around 59°F and as cool as possible during the day.

- When the plants have sprouted and have grown for about 4-5 weeks with sufficient foliage, lower the night temperature to as cool as possible, but no less than 36°.
- (DO NOT ALLOW FROST AT ANY TIME)
- If possible, keep the sides of greenhouses/hoophouses open at night to ensure the roots are well ventilated.

7.Cutting/Harvesting

Do not pull the stems from the bulb-ALWAYS CUT STEMS WITH A KNIFE!

- Cool water buckets the night before harvesting in a cooler to have cold water in harvesting buckets.
- **Cut flowers in early morning** and deposit stems immediately into water about 40° F.
- Store all cut flowers immediately after harvesting in water buckets in a cooler.
- If the crop is harvested later during the day and the stem dries out, it will absorb less water, that is why it is important to place directly in water after cutting.
- **Before harvesting, let the flowers open and close for 3 days.** Then cut the flowers for maximum size.
- This technique provides larger flowers and a longer-lasting vase life.